2) Provision of accommodation for office, canteen at a nominal rent of Rs. 20/- per annum.

3) 90% of payment of bills to be made within a week's time, after submission of the bills and the balance being made within one month of the receipt of the bills.

4) No earnest money is obtainable if the contract is awarded through negotiations.

5) In case of tenders, earnest money is chargeable at 10% subject to a minimum of Rs. 500/- and a maximum of Rs. 1000/-.

6) Deduction of security deposit through bills at the rate of 5% from each bill.

Withdrawal of Assameese language from tickets

105. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that North Frontier Railways has withdrawn Assameese language from the tickets being issued to rail passengers;

(b) whether is it also a fact that this has hurt the sentiments of the local populace and situation may go out of control any time;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are aware of the problems faced by the rail passengers at stations; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to counter the said problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Gauge conversion in Rajasthan

†106. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail tracks of Rajasthan covered in the rail budget for the year 2006-07 for carrying out survey work with regard to gauge conversion:

(b) the schedule fixed to complete the survey work with regard to said gauge conversion alongwith the present status of the progress thereof; and

(c) by when the gauge conversion of Chittor-Alwar track is targeted to be completed alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No new survey for gauge conversion was included in the Budget 2006-07.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Alwar to Ajmer *via* Bandikui-Jaipur-Phulera is already on broad gauge. Further the gauge conversion from Ajmer to Chittaurgarh has already been completed and commissioned.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.